GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:105
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007
SHORTAGE OF LPG
Ajaya Kumar Shri S.;Krishnadas Shri N.N.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the acute shortage of cooking gas in certain parts of the country including the State of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is aware that certain cooking gas agencies are not registering new applications for gas connections; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps being taken by the Government to resolve this issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 105 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.11.2007 RAISED BY SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS AND SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR REGARDING SHORTAGE OF LPG

(a) & (b): There is no overall shortage of LPG in the country, including in the State of Kerala, and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the requirement of customers registered with the LPG distributors. However, OMCs had reported occasional backlog in certain States/Union Territories including the State of Kerala due to natural calamities like floods, road breaches, collapse of bridge and stoppage of work by various sections of the employees, strike by transporters and contract labourers, hartals etc. The Government has advised OMCs to liquidate the backlog in the States/UTs by operating the bottling plants on holidays, extended hours of working and also by ensuring adequate supply of cylinders .

(c) & (d): The enrolment of new LPG customers and release of new LPG connections is a continuous process. As on 1.11.2007 there were 9.77 crore domestic LPG customers in the country while the waiting list was only 68813 in the country, including 10861 in the State of Kerala for release of new domestic LPG connections. This waiting list is expected to be liquidated by 15th December 2007.